



The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program

# Part 1 Introduction to DEEOIC



#### **Program Overview Session**

U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Workers' Compensation Programs
Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation

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#### **Overview**



This training is intended to provide you with a general overview of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act (EEOICPA), the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) and the Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation.

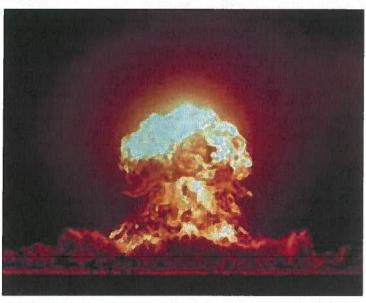
This course will define the mission of the DEEOIC, identify the role and primary functions of the DEEOIC National Office, Final Adjudication Branch, District Offices, CE2 Units, and Resource Centers, and articulate DEEOIC's customer service philosophy and claimant-friendly approach





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#### **History of Atomic Weaponry in the US**



- In the early 1940s, the US government began exploring atomic energy sources for use in weaponry
- The Government was unaware of extent of effects of radiation and other toxic substances upon workers exposed to atomic energy sources







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#### **Beginnings of EEOICPA**

- EEOICPA was enacted on October 2000 and provides compensation to those individuals who:
  - Worked in atomic weapons industry, and
  - Developed certain illnesses that were found to be potentially linked to employment in that industry





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#### Part B and E of the EEOICPA

- DOL administers both Parts B and E of the EEOICPA.
- Part B became effective July 31, 2001. DEEOIC began providing benefits on August 9, 2001
- In October 2000, Congress created Part D to be administered by DOE.
- On October 28, 2004, Congress amended EEOICPA, creating Part E to be administered by DOL. October 30, 2000 is the earliest date of filing for Part D/E claims
- On the next few pages, you will find timelines of significant events surrounding the development of atomic energy and weaponry and the inception of the EEOICPA is illustrated on the next several pages.







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	August 13, 1942	Cold War Years (late 40's - early 90's)	
1890's - 1940's		1942 - 1946	1947
Early studies of the atom and nuclear fission	Manhattan Project a.k.a. Manhattan Engineer District (MED) creation date	Manhattan Project	Transfer of MED function to Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)
	30M3		
Pierre & Marie Curie discover Polonium & Radium	This is the first day that employment can qualify under the EEOICPA	Leslie Groves & Robert Oppenheimer	Harry Truman signing the Act

Employees covered under our program are often referred to as "Cold War Warriors". They have been given this title because, although they were not on the front lines of battle, they were in the front lines of creating atomic weapons.









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Cold War Years (late 40's - early 90's)					
1950 - 1960's	1974	1975-1977	1977 - present		
The Height of the Atomic Arms race with the Russians during the Cold War Nuclear Testing:	AEC abolished. Energy Research & Development Administration (ERDA) created to replace AEC	ERDA began in January 1975 responsible for management of the energy research and development, nuclear weapons, and naval reactors programs	ERDA BECOMES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE).		
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Cold War Years (late 40's - early 90's)					
1990	October 2000	July 31, 2001	October 28, 2004		
RECA ENACTED ADMINISTERED BY DOJ	EEOICPA enacted	DOL BEGINS PROCESSING CLAIMS	AMENDMENT TO EEOICPA ABOLISHING PART D AND CREATING E FOR DOL'S ADMINISTRATION		
Uranium Miner	Created Part B & D, Part B to be administered by DOL, Part D to be administered by DOE	Earliest date claims are accepted by DOL. First payment made in August 2001.	DOE TRANSFERRED OVER 25,000 CASES TO DOL FOR ADJUDICATION. DOL WORKED QUICKLY TO CREATE REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES AND MADE THE BACKLOG OF THESE CASES TOP PRIORITY.		

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# The Department of Labor Organization Chart



Over the next few pages, Let us look at the organization of the Department of labor

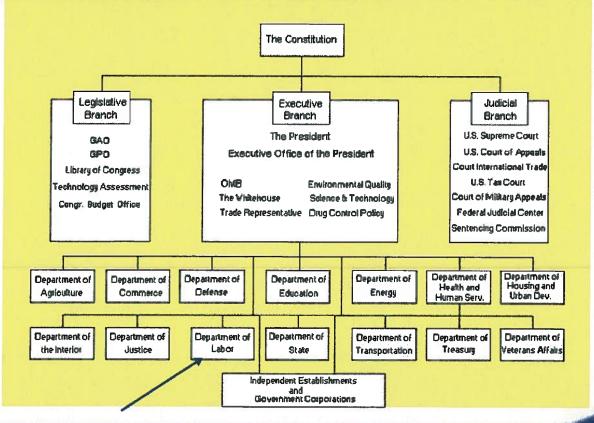




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The US Government's organization chart is shown below. The US Department of Labor is one part (department) of the Government.



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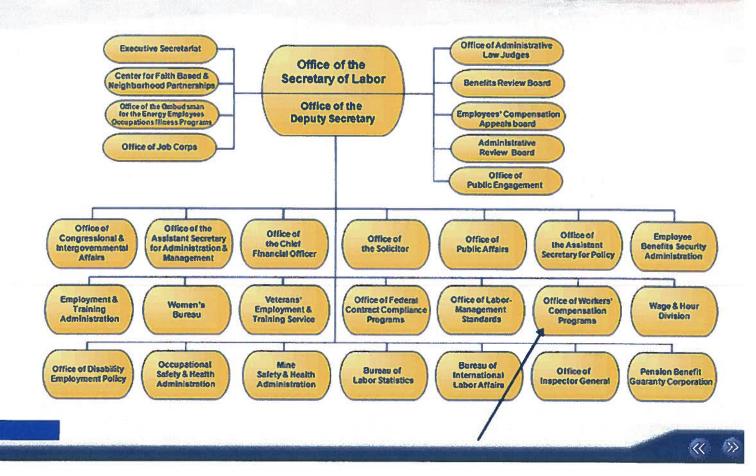






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OWCP is a program which reports to the DOL's Secretary of Labor.



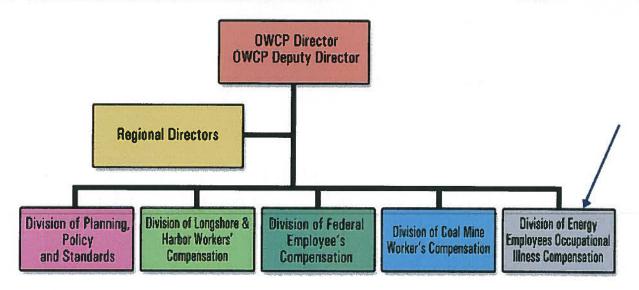


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#### **OWCP ORGANIZATION CHART**

Shelby Hallmark is the OWCP Director and Cecily Rayburn is the Acting OWCP Deputy Director. DEEOIC is one of the five OWCP divisions.



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# DEEOIC Organization Charts



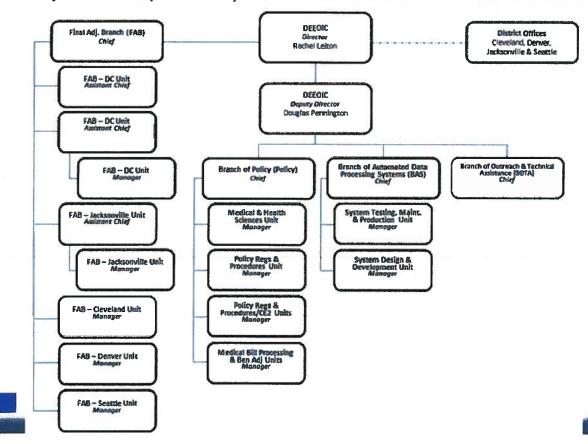
Over the next few pages, Let us look at the organization of the Department of labor





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Our Agency, the Division of Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation (DEEOIC) consists of four branches as shown below.



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#### **Office of Director**

- The key role of the Office of Director is administrative leadership and accountability.
- The key functions of the Office of Director are planning and budgeting, performance measures, and policy evaluation.







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#### **Policy Branch**

#### Policy, Regulations & Procedures Unit

- Provides formal and informal guidance regarding policies to internal personnel, claimants, and other agencies
- Reviews cases for reopening requests and director's orders
- Administers Accountability Reviews
- Manages the Site Exposure Matrices (SEM)

#### Medical & Health Science Unit

- ☐ Industrial Hygienists on-site exposure issues
- ☐ Toxicologist causation issues
- ☐ Health Physicists radiation exposure issues
- ☐ Medical Coding Specialist
- Medical Director medical issues

#### **CE2 Unit A**

Adjudicates unresolved portions of a claim after a recommended decision for one portion of a claim has been issued, but the FAB hasn't yet issued a final decision.







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# Branch of Outreach & Technical Assistance (BOTA)

- Provides training and technical assistance
- Develops and implements outreach activities
- Manages DEEOIC's priority correspondence activity and prepares responses for Secretary of Labor, OWCP Director, DEEOIC Director
- Handles Privacy Act and FOIA responses and Privacy Act responses directed to the National Office (when claim is located at the National Office).
- Manages the Resource Centers functions







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# **Branch of Automated Data Processing** Systems (BAS)

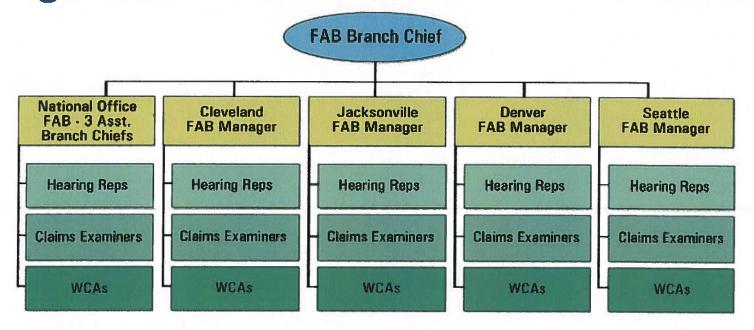
- **Automated Data Processing support**
- Coordination & policy direction for systems activities
- Coordinates with DITMS GSS IT for all IT issues
- Maintains ECMS, ECS (unified system) and generates reports
- **Central Medical Bill Processing**





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# Final Adjudication Branch (FAB) Organization Chart











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#### **FAB Roles and Functions**

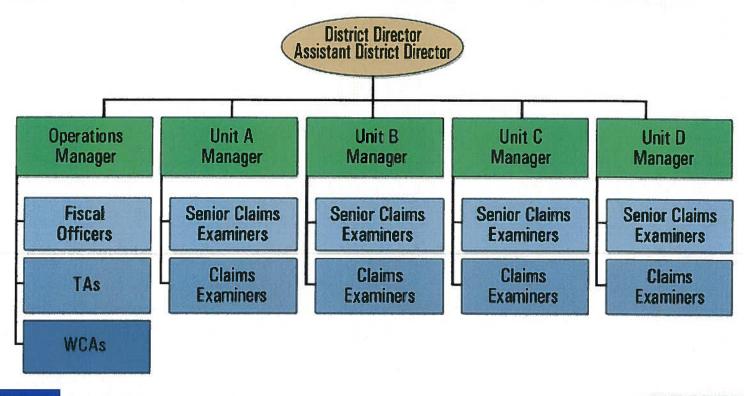
- Responsible for reviewing each recommended decision to ensure it:
  - Adheres to legal requirements enumerated under EEOICPA
  - Issued with proper regard to established program policy and procedures
- Issues final decisions and payments
- Conducts hearings and responds to objections





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#### **District Office (DO) Organization Chart**









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#### **District Office Function**

- Main role develop and review claims to determine eligibility for benefits
- Jurisdiction based upon the location of employee's last covered employment
- Perform necessary development
- Issue recommended decisions
- Forward case file to National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for dose reconstruction

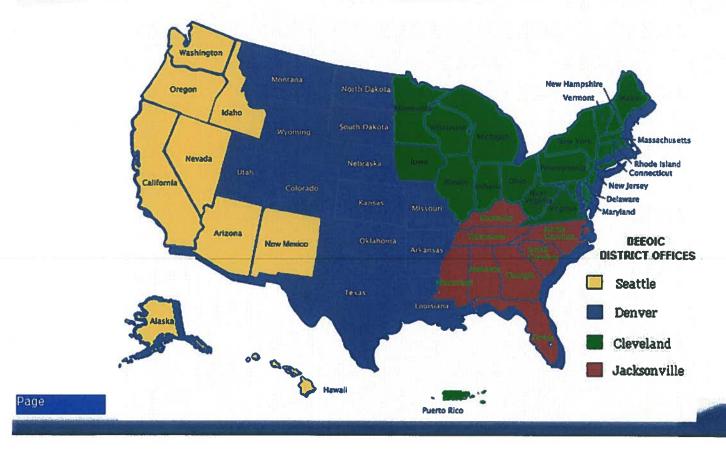






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## **District Office Jurisdicational Map**



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#### **Resource Center (RC)**

- Provides valuable information about claims process to claimants
- Assists claimants with completion of necessary forms needed to file a claim under EEOICPA
- Assists claimants with medical bill pay issues
- Conducts local outreach







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# DEEOIC'S MISSION STATEMENT



The mission of the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program is to deliver benefits to eligible employees and former employees of the Department of Energy, its contractors and subcontractors or to certain survivors of such individuals, as provided in the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act. The mission also includes delivering benefits to certain beneficiaries of Section five of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.







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#### **Customer Service Philosophy**

- All DEEOIC staff expected to give highest level of customer service to all individuals conducting business with DEEOIC (internal and external)
- You must be:
  - Courteous
  - Professional
  - Flexible
  - Honest
  - Helpful







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Employees, claimants, advocates and others should know that the intent of DEEOIC claims staff is to approve benefits for all employees and survivors who qualify









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#### Golden Rule

#### DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DO UNTO YOU.

- Imagine yourself as an EEOICPA claimant. How would you like to be treated?
- Imagine a loved one as an EEOICPA claimant. How would you talk to them on the phone?
- COUCH SUE

If you can have empathy for the claimant's feelings (loss, frustration, fear, anxiety), it will be easier to treat them with courtesy.









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#### Summary

The mission of DEEOIC is to deliver benefits to eligible employees and former employees of DOE, its contractors and subcontractors or to certain survivors, as provided in EEOICPA and certain beneficiaries of Section 5 of the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA).

The DEEOIC organization consists of a National Office, four District Offices, a central and four district level Final Adjudication Branch Offices, CE2 Units, and Resource Centers strategically located throughout the US.

Customer-centric philosophy permeates at all levels of the entire DEEOIC organization.

Employees, claimants, advocates and others must know that the **intent** of DEEOIC claims staff is to **approve** benefits for all employees and survivors who qualify.







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#### **Knowledge Check**



Answer each question before continuing to the next page.

Click the 'Next' button to begin.

Click the 'Done' button on the last page of the assessment to see if you have passed and, if requested by your supervisor, print the results.

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Replace question and answers by double-clicking the question icon in the left-hand pane.

- Answer 1
- Answer 2
- Answer 3





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Done



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